**The Universal Prayer**

**Third Sunday of Lent**

**23rd March 2025**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers,

Jesus has called us to repent of our sins,

and so we pray for the grace to respond with sincerity.

1. We pray for Pope Francis that his health will continue to improve

and that his trust in God will generate hope in the hearts of all people of goodwill.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1. We pray that next Friday’s, 24 hours For The Lord, in this Jubilee Year, will deepen our repentance and draw us closer to Jesus,

our true Hope.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1. We pray for every member of the Church

that during this Lent all will sincerely and humbly

repent of their sins.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy**

1. We pray with greater intensity that the efforts to achieve a lasting ceasefire in the Palestinian – Israeli and the Ukrainian – Russian wars

will become a reality for all who suffer.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1. We pray for

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1. We pray for the eternal rest and joy of Archbishop James Gleeson, former Archbishop of Adelaide and Bishop Philip Kennedy, former Auxiliary Bishop in Adelaide, as we give thanks for their ministries.

We also remember….

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant Almighty God,

always kind and merciful,

may we never forget your blessings,

and always offer you our thanksgiving and praise.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Monday 24th March 2025**

**Third Week of Lent**

Celebrant: Jesus in speaking the truth

had to face the anger of his own people.

We pray for all who live with the same danger.

1. May the love of the Father, the compassion of Jesus and the comfort of

the Holy Spirit sustain Pope Francis this day.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May there be freedom of religion in every country

so that people can worship God in spirit and in truth.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May those who are ridiculed for speaking the truth

remain steadfast in the face of opposition.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May those who are quick to anger,

those who threaten others with violence,

and those who do harm to others,

learn to repent and have a new respect for all people.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May this International Day for the Right to Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations Victims, bring justice to all who have been wronged in the Palestinian/Israeli and Ukrainian/Russian wars.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May rain bring an end to drought and replenish the soil of South Australia.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Father, our souls thirst for you, the living God.

Send forth your light and truth

that they may be our guide.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Tuesday 25th March 2025**

**Annunciation of the Lord**

Celebrant: As we celebrate the mystery that the Eternal Word

took flesh of the Virgin Mary, we pray that

all Christians will take the same Word into their hearts.

1. May the prayer of the Church and the tender love of Mary sustain Pope Francis in his long illness.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May every Christian, during this Time of Lent

rejoice in the will of God, as did Mary so long ago.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May Christ dwell in our hearts, through faith.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May this solemnity of God’s Son with us, in the womb of Mary,

bring blessings of truth and peace to our Christian brothers and sisters who endure persecution because of their faith in Jesus.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May the priests and people of the Hectorville Parish, dedicated to Our Lady of the Annunciation, find in her Son the true meaning of their lives.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May the presence of Jesus, God with us, restore the dignity of everyone

trapped in war and violence across the world.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May this International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade intensify our efforts to rid the world of every form of modern slavery.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Father, as your Son was conceived at the message of an angel, so may we receive the Gospel of Jesus,

knowing that we no longer live alone, but that Christ lives within us, he who is Lord, for ever and ever.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Wednesday 26th March 2025**

**Third Week of Lent**

Celebrant: Jesus shows us how important it is

to teach others the truth of his law.

1. May Pope Francis be sustained in his time of trail and be a sign of hope to all who are sick in hospital.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May those in Palestine and Ukraine whose hospitals have been destroyed or wrecked in war receive the humanitarian aid which they so urgently need, thereby helping their doctors and nurses to care for the wounded.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May bishops, priests and deacons, parents, teachers and catechists,

teach the law of love and mercy to others by word and example.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May those who have been guilty of teaching others to break the law of God, repent of their sin and seek to restore the damage they have caused.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May each of us, relying on the strength of the Holy Spirit,

not allow the word of God to slip from our hearts all the days of our lives.

Lord, have mercy.

1. May we never forget the plight of Christians persecuted and displaced

across the Middle East.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, bless our children

with your laws and decrees

so that they can walk in truth,

now and always.

Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Thursday 27th March 2025**

**Third Week of Lent**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers,

Jesus has warned us against divisions

which harm and even destroy communities.

1. We pray for the universal Church that, gathered around Pope Francis in prayer for him, its unity may always be strengthened in Jesus Christ.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray that we will be a nation which listens to the voice of God

and act with justice and mercy toward all.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray that we will not take the devil for granted, but sustained by the Holy Spirit, put every effort into resisting his temptations.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray for the Archdiocese of Adelaide that there may be a real sense of unity, freedom from factions, jealousy or judgmental attitudes.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray that in every place where there is war, God will move hearts to seek justice and peace, and everywhere there is famine and crushing poverty the conscience of the world will be awakened to assist.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Almighty God, give us the grace to listen attentively to your voice lest our hearts become hardened and we drift from our faith in you. Through Christ our Lord

**The Universal Prayer**

**Friday 28th March 2025**

**Third Week of Lent**

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers, the supreme commandment of Jesus

to love God, self and neighbor, shapes every aspect of our lives

1. We pray for Pope Francis as he leads the Church from hospital into this

Jubilee 24 Hours for the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

1. We pray that we will enter into the spirit of this 24 Hours for the Lord, reflecting on its theme, *You are my hope.*

Lord, have mercy

1. We pray that the call to repentance at the heart of this 24 Hours for the Lord will give us the opportunity to prepare for the Sacrament of Penance before Easter.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray that every Christian and every Jewish person may live the supreme commandment as found in the Christian and Hebrew Scriptures:

to love God with all their heart and soul, mind and strength.

Lord, have mercy

1. We pray for sinners, that they may experience God’s mercy which falls like a dew, refreshing and giving new life.

Lord, have mercy.

1. We pray for those who are warm in their loving,

that they may continue to bring hope, peace and kindness to others.

Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord our God, we pray that we may be always faithful to you

in the times that are difficult and in the times of blessings so

that we can praise you. Through Christ our Lord.

**The Universal Prayer**

**Saturday 29th March 2025**

**Third Week of Lent**

Celebrant: Dear friends, we are invited to have the humility of the publican who recognized that he was a sinner

in need of God’s mercy.

1. That those caring for Pope Francis during his illness will receive

the grateful thanks of all Catholics.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That Catholics may, as Easter approaches, and in the spirit of this 24 hours for the Lord, seek the forgiveness of God in the Sacrament of Penance.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That those who are arrogant in their faith may come to that humility of heart in which they recognize their need for God’s mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That we may prepare for the judgement of God, not with fear and dread, but with hope and joy, since he is our loving Saviour.

Lord, have mercy.

1. That we continue our fervent prayers for an end to the Palestine/Israel and the Ukraine/Russia wars, along with the violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, Yemen and Sudan.

Celebrant: Father, we trust in your mercy

which you lavish on us.

Through Christ our Lord.